

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:51

ANSWERED ON:21.11.2002

AUTHORISATION OF PRIVATE AGENCIES FOR RESERVATION OF RAIL TICKETS

HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY;MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have authorised certain private agencies for reservation of rail tickets;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the arrangements made by the Railways to inform the public about these authorised agencies;
- (d) the criteria adopted by the Government to engage these private agencies; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to prevent unauthorised private agencies from operating in reservation of railway tickets ?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.51 BY SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY AND SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D VASAVA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 21-11- 2002 REGARDING AUTHORISATION OF PRIVATE AGENCIES FOR RESERVATION OF RAIL TICKETS.

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. About 765 Rail Travellers' Service Agents (RTSAs) have been appointed on the Indian Railways under the provisions of 'Authorisation of Rail Travellers' Service Agents Rules, 1985' to purchase tickets from the railway reservation offices on behalf of the intending passengers by standing in queue like a normal passenger.

(c): The information regarding RTSAs is published by most of the Zonal Railways in the Zonal Railway Time Tables.

(d): The RTSAs are appointed in terms of Authorisation of Rail Travellers' Service Agents Rules, 1985 as amended from time to time.

(e): Checks are conducted from time to time by Railway officials in association with Police to apprehend unauthorised persons indulging in illegal trade of tickets and appropriate action is taken against them under the relevant provisions of law. During peak rush periods, monitoring at important stations is stepped up.